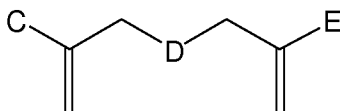


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 52 (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) A cross-linked polyether which is obtained by polymerizing a monomer of the general formula:



wherein

D is PEG, PPG, or poly(THF), and

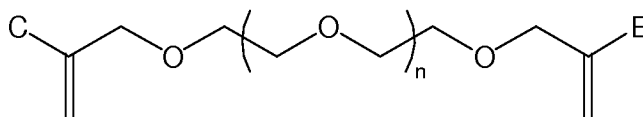
C and E independently represent an electron withdrawing group, an electron releasing group, or a C₁-C₃₀ aryl, wherein groups C, D, and E remain respectfully unchanged in every monomer polymerized.

54. (Currently Amended) The cross-linked polyether of claim 53, wherein the electron withdrawing group is halogen, formyl, ester, amide, ~~ketone~~, nitro, sulfoxide, sulfonate, nitrile, aldehyde, or ketone.

55. (Currently Amended) The cross-linked polyether of claim 54, wherein the electron withdrawing group is ~~alkyl acrylate~~ ethyl formate or nitrile.

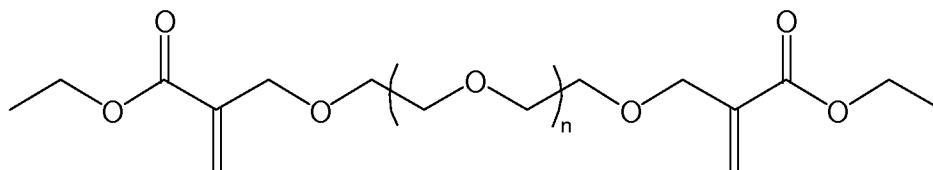
56. (Previously Presented) The cross-linked polyether of claim 53, wherein the electron releasing group is selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₃₀ linear or branched alkyls, C₂ to C₃₀ linear or branched aralkyls, C₁ to C₃₀ aryls, ethers, and amines.

57. (Currently Amended) The cross-linked polyether of claim 53, wherein the monomer has the formula:



wherein the n is 1 to 100.

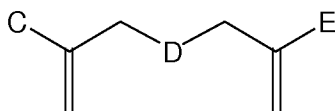
58. (Previously Presented) The cross-linked polyether of claim 57, wherein the monomer has the formula:



59. (Previously Presented) The cross-linked polyether of claim 53, wherein the monomer is produced under Baylis-Hillman or Phase Transfer Catalyst (PTC) conditions.

60. (Previously Presented) The cross-linked polyether of claim 58, wherein the monomer is produced under Baylis-Hillman or Phase Transfer Catalyst (PTC) conditions.

61. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a cross-linked polyether, comprising the step of polymerizing a monomer of the general formula:



wherein

D is PEG, PPG, or poly(THF), and

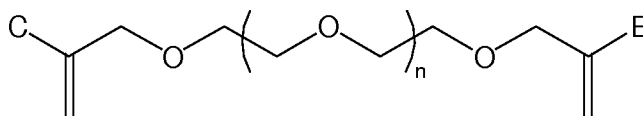
C and E independently represent an electron withdrawing group, an electron releasing group, or a C₁-C₃₀ aryl, wherein groups C, D, and E remain respectfully unchanged in every monomer polymerized.

62. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 61, wherein the electron withdrawing group is halogen, formyl, ester, amide, ~~ketone~~, nitro, sulfoxide, sulfonate, nitrile, aldehyde, or ketone.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 62, wherein the electron withdrawing group is ~~alkyl acrylate~~ ethyl formate or nitrile.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, wherein the electron releasing group is selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₃₀ linear or branched alkyls, C₂ to C₃₀ linear or branched aralkyls, C₁ to C₃₀ aryls, ethers, and amines.

65. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 61, wherein the monomer has the formula:



wherein the n is 1 to 100.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, wherein the monomer has the formula:

